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United Nations Industrial Development Organization

Industrial Development Board

Eighteenth session

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RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD AT ITS EIGHTEENTH SESSION 57(XVIII)

57(XVIII). Industrial Development Decade for Africa

The Industrial Development Board,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 35/66B of 5 December 1980 and 38/192, section II, of 20 December 1983 and other resolutions adopted by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council on the Industrial Development Decade for Africa,

Recalling further the resolutions adopted by the Industrial Development Board on the Industrial Development Decade for Africa, particularly resolution 54 (XV) of 30 May 1981, in which the Board, inter alia, declared the Industrial Development Decade for Africa to be one of the most important programmes of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, and resolution 56 (XVII) of 13 May 1983, in which the Industrial Development Board, inter alia, expressed its deep concern at the scarcity of resources which had contributed to the limited progress achieved in the implementation of the preparatory phase of the Industrial Development Decade for Africa,

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Noting the high priority accorded to the programme for the Industrial Development Decade for Africa by the General Assembly, the Industrial Development Board as well as by the Organization of African Unity, the Economic Commission for Africa Conference of Ministers and the Conference of African Ministers of Industry as reflected in the various resolutions adopted on the Industrial Development Decade for Africa, particularly those cited in the first preambular paragraph above, and Organization of African Unity Council of Ministers resolution CM/RES.941 (XI), Economic Commission for Africa resolution 446 (XVIII), and resolution 1 (VII) adopted by the Seventh Conference of African Ministers of Industry,

Seriously concerned about the constraints, in particular the lack of resources, encountered by the African countries during the implementation of the preparatory phase of the programme for the Industrial Development Decade for Africa,

Mindful of the magnitude of financial, human and material resources required for the implementation of the programme for the Industrial Development Decade for Africa and the urgent need for the international community to intensify its co-operation with the African countries in the mobilization of required resources,

Recognizing the fact that the African region is industrially the least developed of the developing regions of the world and contains 26 of the 36 countries categorized by the United Nations as least developed,

1. Takes note with appreciation of the third progress report on the implementation of the programme for the Industrial Development Decade for Africa, submitted by the Executive Director of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa; a/

2. Takes note with interest of resolution 1 (VII) adopted by the Seventh Conference of African Ministers of Industry on the implementation of the programme for the Industrial Development Decade for Africa;

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3. Welcomes the progress made in implementing the preparatory phase of the programme for the Industrial Development Decade for Africa and, especially, the efforts deployed by African countries, intergovernmental organizations and the secretariats of the Organization of African Unity, the Economic Commission for Africa and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization;

4. Takes note of the initial integrated subregional industrial promotion programmes endorsed by the Seventh Conference of African Ministers of Industry and requests the Executive Director of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to provide to the extent possible, in co-operation with the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity and the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, assistance to African countries and relevant intergovernmental organizations in the implementation of those programmes, including the convening of follow-up subregional meetings to review the progress in their implementation;

5. Takes note with appreciation of the programme for the promotion of industrial co-operation between Latin American and African countries and organizations in the implementation of the programme for the Industrial Development Decade for Africa adopted at the First International Latin American/African Symposium and endorsed by the Seventh Conference of African Ministers of Industry and requests the Executive Director of UNIDO to examine, in co-operation with the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity and the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa and where feasible to undertake similar initiatives with other developing subregions;

6. Welcomes with appreciation the decision of the General Assembly to increase the allocation to the Industrial Development Decade for Africa by US$1 million for assistance to African countries and intergovernmental organizations in the formulation and implementation of their programmes for the Industrial Development Decade for Africa, and notes with interest the appeal expressed by the Seventh Conference of the African Ministers of Industry that the allocation by the General Assembly for the Industrial Development Decade for Africa should be increased to an annual minimum level of $5 million, and should be put on a permanent basis;

7. Supports fully the internal policy measures and direction provided by the Executive Director of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization for the effective implementation of the resolutions adopted by the Industrial Development Board and the General Assembly on the Industrial Development Decade for Africa,

including the mobilization of financial resources for increased assistance to African countries and intergovernmental organizations and the deployment of internal resources of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization for this purpose;

8. Renews its appeal to all countries and bilateral and multilateral technical assistance and donor agencies to intensify their co-operation with African countries in the implementation of the programme for the Industrial Development Decade for Africa and appeals to all countries to increase their contributions to the United Nations Industrial Development Fund through, inter alia, special-purpose contributions for projects and programmes related to the Industrial Development Decade for Africa;

9. Reaffirms its request to the United Nations Development Programme to allocate adequate financial resources to the programme for the Industrial Development Decade for Africa in view of the high priority accorded to it by the General Assembly, the Industrial Development Board and the African countries;

10. Requests the Executive Director to make recommendations for the implementation by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization of the programme for the Industrial Development Decade for Africa (1985-1990), taking into account the initial integrated subregional industrial promotion programmes, and to ensure that the activities of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization in Africa are intensified and directed towards the specific needs of African countries within the framework of the programme for the Industrial Development Decade for Africa;

11. Recommends to the General Assembly to continue to provide the United Nations Industrial Development Organization with adequate resources required for the effective co-ordination and monitoring of the activities of the programme within the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, and in close co-operation with competent United Nations bodies.

363rd plenary meeting
19 May 1984